

ARIZONA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
ARIZONA FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the Arizona Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION MONTH OF DECEMBER 2017

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Barley and Durum Wheat planting was well on its way as cotton harvesting was finishing up by month's end, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Alfalfa conditions were rated mostly good to excellent, depending on location last week with harvesting taking place on over three-quarters of the alfalfa acreage across the State. Cotton defoliation was virtually complete while 90 percent of cotton had been harvested by the end of December. Barley planting was complete on 20 percent of the acreage last month, compared to only 1 percent last year and 3 percent of barley had emerged. Durum Wheat planting was estimated at 21 percent complete with 4 percent emerged. Last month, central Arizona growers shipped bok choy, broccoli, cabbage (green and red), cauliflower, cilantro, Chinese cabbage, kale greens, lettuce (Romaine) and parsley. In western Arizona, growers shipped anise, arugula, bok choy, broccoli, cabbage (green and red), cauliflower, celery, Chinese cabbage, cilantro, endive, escarole, frisee, kale greens, lettuce (Boston, green leaf, iceberg, red leaf, romaine and other), parsley, radicchio, spinach and Swiss chard. The lack of significant rainfall in Coconino and Yavapai Counties over the last month has resulted in mostly dry water tanks with minimal, at best, forage conditions. In Graham County, the lack of canal water and precipitation has halted small grain plantings. In Pinal and Pima Counties ranchers are suffering from the lack of rain. For the month of December only 22 of the 50 weather stations reported any precipitation, with Buckeye and Paloma reporting the least at 0.01 inches while Nogales reported the most at 0.64 inches. All but 5 of the 50 weather stations reported above normal temperatures for the month. The highest temperature during the month was 86 degrees at Ajo, Roll and Sahuarita. The lowest temperature during the month was -3 degrees at the Grand Canyon.

Monthly reports will be released for January on Monday, January 29, 2018; and for February on Monday, February 26, 2018.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Barley				
Planted	20	NA	1	NA
Emerged	3	NA	NA	NA
Cotton				
Defoliated	99	90	NA	NA
Harvested	90	68	97	NA
Durum wheat				
Planted	21	NA	NA	NA
Emerged	4	NA	NA	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil moisture				
Very short	3	10	1	NA
Short	23	33	30	NA
Adequate	74	57	65	NA
Surplus	--	--	4	NA
Subsoil moisture				
Very short	3	10	14	NA
Short	23	34	14	NA
Adequate	74	56	70	NA
Surplus	--	--	2	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current report	Previous report	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Alfalfa hay				
Very poor	--	--	4	NA
Poor.....	1	5	1	NA
Fair.....	18	20	23	NA
Good	47	39	43	NA
Excellent	34	36	29	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor	31	7	10	NA
Poor.....	35	27	14	NA
Fair.....	34	48	36	NA
Good	--	18	36	NA
Excellent	--	--	4	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero

Arizona's weather data can be accessed at the following:

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Arizona/Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/2017/AZ_Weather_12312017.pdf